

15. (New) The apron of claim 2, wherein the apron has a design on the bib.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the last Office Action, as they may apply to the claims as set forth, is respectfully requested in view of the remarks set forth herein.

A summary of the invention is added to the specification to more easily describe the present invention. Further description of the drawings is included. This description is supported by the specification and figures and is added merely to more fully describe the present invention. No new matter is added. The application is objected to as not including an abstract. An abstract as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.72(b) is added as included on a separate sheet.

Claim 1 is cancelled. Claims 2-15 are added. A clean copy of the claims is attached. No new matter is introduced with these amendments.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

- A. 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner notes that the claim is vague and indefinite because it does not positively set the meet and bounds of the patent protection desired, since the claim does not show any structure as to how the device is constructed. The Examiner further notes that the claim is narrative in form and replete with indefinite and functional or operational

language. The ground for this rejection has been obviated by the canceling of claim 1 and by the new claims.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner also rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated as understood by Greene (US 1,451,095). The Examiner notes that Greene discloses a protective garment made of one piece flexible textile fabric that extends from the chest to the feet (col. 2, line 1; figures 1-2) which is secured to the body by adjustable fasteners 8, 9, 11, 12 (figures 3-4). This rejection is respectfully traversed to the extent that it may apply to the claims as amended.

The present invention discloses an apron with fully adjustable straps which extends from the chest to the feet, covering and protecting the chest, legs, and feet. However, Greene generally describes a one-piece apron with a non-adjustable neck strap, and which extends from the chest to the mid-leg. Greene does not describe an apron which protects the feet or shoes. Specifically, Greene does not describe an apron comprising a bib, leg panels connected to the bib, and foot covers connected to the leg panels. Therefore, Greene does not anticipate claim 2, or its dependent claims 3-15, and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of these claims.

In view of the above clarification and amendments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2, and respectfully submits that the amended claims are both novel and nonobvious over the art, particularly the aforementioned and deficient Greene patent.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that all of the rejections against this application have been fully addressed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and a notice of allowance for the application is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is a check for \$445.00 to cover the three-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees in connection with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 04-1425. A duplicate copy of this response is enclosed for that purpose.

If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephonic interview would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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